

City of Santa Barbara
COVID-19 Business Advisory Task Force
May 14 Meeting Summary

- Many of the Business Advisory Task Force members were able to join and participate in the meeting with City staff.
- City Administrator Paul Casey noted that the City's budget review process had been initiated and that the County was set to review and approve the County's Reopening Guide on Tuesday, May 19.
- Jason Harris with the City noted that the City's letter to the County providing the Task Force feedback and recommendations to the County's draft Reopening Guide was available online at the task force webpage.
- Jason gave an overview of Task Force members' initial ideas grouped into topics, and recommendations outlined under the three committees:
 - **Marketing/Events/Area Activations Committee**
 - **Regulations/Permitting Committee**
 - **Business Assistance/Support Committee**
- There was collective review and discussion of the need to reopen the economy, and concerns about business closures and the approaching end date of the federal assistance programs, with emphasis on the concern that businesses will need to be open to repay the loans.
- Task Force members offered additional ideas and opinions about local businesses. Members offered to help advise other local businesses to transition their business models, discussed the need to contemplate a Plan B if the reopening is not forthcoming, expressed interest for the Task Force to focus on micro efforts to assist with businesses reopening, and shared overall frustration and angst at the stay at home order and the negative impact on businesses.